

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

TWENTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SULPHUR SPRINGS
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION;

HELD WITH

Good Hope Church, Jefferson County, Ala.,

— ON —

August 18, 19, 20, 21, A. D. 1892.

OFFICERS:

W. J. MCCRARY, Moderator, - - - - Partridge, Ala.
J. M. JAMES, Secretary and Treasurer, - - - Arkadelphia, Ala.
W. R. MARTIN, Corresponding Secretary, - Blount Springs, Ala.

The above named Brethren constitute the Executive Board.

*The Association will convene with
Mount Zion Church, Jefferson County, Alabama,
about eight miles west of Warrior, Alabama, on the South & North R. R.,
Thursday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1893.*

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ROBERTS & SON
LITHOGRAPHERS, PRINTERS AND BINDERS
BIRMINGHAM ALA

PROCEEDINGS.

JEFFERSON COUNTY, ALABAMA, August 18, 1892.

The Sulphur Springs Baptist Association met in the Good Hope Church House in Jefferson county, Alabama, at 11 A. M., and was called to order by J. W. Trotter, who conducted the devotional exercises and preached the introductory sermon, from the fourteenth chapter, 40th verse, First Corinthians. After which, adjourned until 2 o'clock P. M.

EVENING SESSION—2 O'CLOCK.

The delegates that were present met in the Church House and offered prayer to Almighty God. Prayer by Fred Jones.

The Moderator and Clerk being absent, on motion, appointed J. W. Trotter, Moderator *pro tem.*, and W. R. Martin, Clerk *pro tem.*

On motion, adjourned, to meet to-morrow at 9 o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING—9 A. M.

The body came together by singing and was called to order by the former Moderator, G. S. Sloan, who offered praise and called upon Rev. Fred Jones to lead in prayer.

After which, the Moderator called for letters from the churches and appointed W. R. Martin and I. R. Draper as Reading Clerks.

Letters were presented from the following Churches, to-wit: Union Church, Jefferson county; Sulphur Springs Church, Mount Joy Church, Union, Blount county; Calcedonia Church; Springdale Church; Oak Grove Church; Mount Zion Church; New Bethel Church; Arkadelphia Church; Pleasant Valley Church; Harmony Church; Blossburg Church.

On motion, elected Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, and Corresponding Secretary, which resulted in the choice of Elder W. J. McCrary, Moderator; J. M. James, Secretary and Treasurer, and W. R. Martin, Corresponding Secretary.

On motion, adopted the former order of business, with the following amendment, to-wit: Call for petitionary letters.

The call was made and two presented; one from Liberty Church and one from Mount Hope Church.

The letters were read, received, and the Delegates seated with the body.

Received Bro. Fred Jones, from the Birmingham Association, and Bro. H. L. McCrary, from Clear Creek Association, as Correspondents.

On motion, returned Correspondents, to-wit: W. J. McCrary, J. W. Trotter and W. R. Martin, to the Birmingham Association; G. S. Sloan and S. L. Waldrop, to Warrior River Association; J. M. Abbott and W. E. Dollar, to Cullman Association; W. J. McCrary, T. D. Holcomb and W. R. Martin, to Clear Creek Association.

On motion, received Eld. A. A. Smith as Correspondent from North River Association.

The Moderator appointed the following committees, to-wit:

On Devotion—R. C. Greathouse, William Canon and the Deacons of Good Hope Church.

On Sabbath Schools—G. S. Sloan and R. S. Thompson.

On Finance—Bart Compton and P. T. Burns.

On Documents—William Rouse and W. R. Speakman.

On Temperance—W. R. Martin and J. F. McNeal.

On Education—S. L. Waldrop and J. M. C. Whorton.

On Superannuated Ministers—J. A. Owens.

Standing committees, to-wit:

On Education—J. M. C. Whorton and S. L. Waldrop.

On Temperance—T. D. Holcomb and G. S. Sloan.

On Missions—J. W. Trotter and A. L. Hendricks.

On Sabbath Schools—I. R. Draper and J. C. Thomas.

On State of Religion—T. D. Holcomb and W. R. Martin.

On motion, adjourned for preaching, to meet at 2 o'clock.

The stand was occupied by Eld. T. D. Holcomb, followed by Rev. Fred Jones.

EVENING SESSION—2 P. M.

The Delegates met in the Church House, and, after singing a suitable hymn, prayer was offered, led by the Moderator.

Order being had, the Moderator appointed Rev. W. C. Wingo to assist the Committee on Education.

On motion, heard the report of the Executive Board, and, on motion, received and adopted the same, to-wit :

We, your Executive Committee, report the following transactions for the last associational year: We employed Rev. G. S. Sloan as Missionary for a short period this summer, and assigned him three mission stations—one at Rock Spring School House, one near Gravelton, Ala., and one near Bremen, Ala.—and, according to his report, he preached twenty-one sermons—preaching at each place several times—for which we paid him for his services thirty dollars. Our Missionary, G. S. Sloan, organized one Church near Gravelton, and named it Mount Hope, which has now sixteen members and is a member of your body. We hope the mission cause will revive among our Association. We respectfully ask our Churches to be more liberal in mission funds next year, so that the Committee can employ more work done.

Respectfully,

J. H. McNEAL, *Chairman.*

Mount Olive Church and Chalybeate Spring Church, presented letters and asked for admission into the body.

On motion, the letters were read and Delegates seated.

Heard report on State of Religion.

On motion, received the report, and, after considerable discussion, the report was adopted. (See report.)

Your Committee on State of Religion submit the following: That we find but few of our Churches in a prosperous condition. We find but little interest manifested in Sunday Schools. There seems to be no revivals of religion and little ingathering this year. However, we are glad to see that there are some new Churches being organized in our bounds, for which we are rejoiced. We advise the Churches to hold prayer meetings and organize Sunday Schools.

T. D. HOLCOMB, *Chairman.*

A resolution was offered by the Clerk to change the fifteenth article of the Constitution, and on motion, received as

the property of the body, to be considered to-morrow, and laid on the table.

Heard report of Devotional Committee: Eld. A. A. Smith and Rev. G. S. Sloan to preach, at candle lighting, at the Church House, and other brethren at several other places.

Report received and adopted by the body.

On motion, adjourned, to meet back at the Church House to-morrow at 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING—9 A. M.

The Delegates met in the Church House, according to arrangement, the Moderator in the chair, who called the body to order and opened for business by praise and prayer.

On motion, amended the Order of Business, and added the fourteenth article, thus :

Call for Reports of Standing Committees.

Heard report on Sabbath Schools.

Received the report and discharged the Committee, and, on motion, the report was laid on the table until 9 o'clock Sunday morning, to be discussed at that time.

Called for report on Missions.

The Committee, not being ready, asked for more time.

Granted to them.

Called for report on Temperance.

Report was received and Committee discharged.

A motion was offered to adopt the report, and, while discussion was being had, the Devotional Committee reported that Brethren Fred Jones and J. A. Owens would preach in the Church House at 11 o'clock, and the Moderator adjourned the body for preaching—to meet for further business at 2 o'clock P. M.

EVENING SESSION—2 P. M.

The delegates met in the Church House for business, and after singing a suitable hymn, the Moderator called for attention, and, on motion, the report on Temperance was adopted. (See report.)

The criminality of the liquor traffic is no longer debatable ground. We cannot shut out of view the fact, within the knowledge of all, that the public health, public morals and public safety may be endangered by the general use of intoxicating drinks; nor the facts, established by statistics accessible to every one, that the idleness, disorder, disease, pauperism and crime existing in the country are, in some degree at least, traceable to this evil. It is the prolific source of crime, pauperism and insanity, and degenerates, mentally and physically, the human stock. The admission is now quite general that it desolates home and makes the wail of the widow.

What may be done to check or destroy the whiskey traffic? That is the question now asked by the christians. Your Committee thinks, first, we must abstain ourselves from dram drinking. There is no precept like example. Second, we should appeal to science. Teach the evil of alcohol to our children; yes, teach the children. Let us strive that the next generation are not drunkards. Teach them. Then protect them from temptation by abolishing the saloon from the land. Add to this, moral suasion, and you have all the methods known to your Committee for fighting the appalling evil. Let us adopt all these methods; then appeal to science, to reason and law, with self restraint, and continue in the vanguard in the irrepressible conflict till our homes and our boys are saved.

W. R. MARTIN, *Chairman*.

On motion, received a letter from Good Hope Church.

The Moderator appointed A. L. Hendricks to read the letter.

The letter was read and Delegates seated.

Called for report on Documents.

On motion, received and adopted the same. (See report.)

We find, by examining the documents, that the Churches, with one or two exceptions, are in a cold state. We also find that Mount Zion church asks for the next Association to meet with them. Also that three Churches ask for letters of dismission, to-wit: Oak Grove, Fairview and Blossburg, and that Bro. Eld. C. A. Burns is in a low state of health and asks an interest in our prayers and financial help.

WILLIAM ROUSE, *Chairman*.

Report on Education was received and it was adopted. (See report.)

Your Committee on Education report the following: We find that the all importance of education is awakening a deep sensation in the minds of our people, as the dark days of ignorance are passed and the light of knowledge is making its way into the hearts and minds of our people, and that the young men and women have learned that they were created for a more noble purpose than to waste the time of youth-

ful culture, and the neglect of cultivating the youthful mind will only blunt their intellects for life. We also see that our denomination has awakened to a sense of the importance of an educated ministry, as the days of enlightenment are rapidly advancing in our nation and that the facilities of education are surpassing any time in the past history of life; and we recommend the moral culture, as well as the educational culture, and think that parents should look well to the importance of placing their sons and daughters in such schools or colleges as teach the true science and principles of the christian religion.

We, therefore, recommend patronage of the Howard College, as it is a college conducted for our denomination, and its light is shining far over our American land. So we, your Committee, are glad to say that the outlook of education is far better than any time in the past history of life.

W. C. WINGO, *Chairman*.

Report on Missions was read, and, on motion, it was received and Committee discharged, and, after a lively discussion by the brethren, the report was adopted, to-wit :

This is the twentieth annual session of the Sulphur Springs Association. One-fifth of a century of our existence as an Association is in the past, and what have we done for the spread of the gospel, even in our own bounds. It is but meet that we thrust to the front in this report the unwelcome fact that our Churches are sadly in arrears and guilty of exceptional shortcoming in contributing to the support of the gospel, even in our own bounds, and also in foreign fields. For the year 1891 there was only \$31.10 paid for mission work in our bounds, and nothing for the foreign mission work. The total number of our membership was 1,124, which would have been not far from 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ cents per head for missions, all told. We deplore the fact that the Association is so delinquent and so little impressed with the worth of souls. We have a large destitution, and are able to cultivate it if we only had the will. Your Committee recognizes the great demand for an enlarged liberality and sweeping reform in reference to the great command to preach the gospel to every creature. We should adopt wise means to reach and arouse the masses of our people, who are yet virtually anti-missionary, and to kindle in them a higher plane of christian liberality, and stimulate the wealthy, of their abundance, to give much, and the poor, of their little, to give a little. We, as a denomination, are behind all other denominations in the United States in giving or donating. The Presbyterians last year gave \$4,783,657.00; the Methodists gave \$2,769,172.00; Congregationalists, \$2,398,837.00; Episcopalians, \$1,629,401.00, and the Baptists, \$1,362,488.00. This difference is not because of our poverty, but a want of love for souls.

Brethren, let us wake up from our slothfulness and see that the commission to preach the gospel to every creature is carried out; for

the kingdom of this world must be brought in subjection to the kingdom of our Lord. The gospel is the great instrument in the salvation of souls. We have been meeting for twenty years, and what does our record show that we have done in the way of preaching the gospel to those that have not the gospel? And yet we claim to be missionaries.

We would recommend that each member of the Churches of our Association pay fifty cents by the 1st of January, 1893, and that a Missionary be employed his whole time. Let us try the Lord and see if he will not bless. Look at the condition of most of our Churches.

We submit the above.

W. J. McCRARY, *Chairman*.

Report on Superannuated Ministers was read, and, on motion, received and adopted. (See report.)

We, your Committee, report that we find one of our good old veterans is in a very low state of health, to-wit: Eld. C. A. Burns, and ask that this body assist him, as we believe this to be the duty of this body.

J. H. OWENS, *Chairman*.

The resolution to change the fifteenth article of our Constitution was read and offered to the body, and, on motion, it was adopted, to-wit:

Resolved, That we change the fifteenth article of our Constitution, and make it read thus: The business of this Association is to be committed to a board of three, and consist of the Moderator, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer, two of whom shall constitute a quorum to transact business and to make reports at next session of the Association.

On motion, the Association was ordered to meet with Mount Zion Church, on Thursday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1893.

On motion, appointed S. L. Waldrop to preach the introductory sermon, and W. C. Wingo alternate.

On motion, appointed G. S. Sloan to preach the missionary sermon, and J. W. Trotter alternate.

On motion, divided the first district into two districts, and made the Warrior river the line, and called south of the river the third district, and provided that the new district meet Friday before the first Sunday in July, 1893, at Mount Olive Church, leaving the balance for the brethren to arrange.

On motion, granted letters of dismission to Fairview, Oak Grove and Blossburg Churches.

On motion, offered resolution of thanks, to-wit:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are due, and are hereby tendered, to the sisters, brethren and citizens of Good Hope Church for their hospitality during its stay with them.

The report on Finance was received, and, on motion, adopted, to-wit:

For minute fund, \$25.55; foreign missions, \$3.00; home missions, \$2.00.
P. T. BURNS, *Chairman*.

On motion, the Clerk was ordered to have 400 copies of the minutes printed, and distribute them according to amount of funds each Church sent up.

On motion, allowed the Clerk \$10.00 for his services.

On motion, took up collection for Eld. C. A. Burns, which amounted to \$7.05.

On motion, appropriated \$5.00 more from the treasury to Bro. C. A. Burns.

On motion, adjourned to meet Sunday morning, at 9 o'clock.

SUNDAY MORNING—9 A. M.

The Delegates met in the Church House, and were called to order by the Moderator, and, after singing, had prayer, led by Rev. J. W. Trotter.

After which, the report on Sabbath Schools was read again, and a motion was offered to adopt the report, and, after an interesting discussion, the motion passed.

The Moderator dismissed the congregation twenty minutes for recreation.

After which, the congregation met in the Church House to hear the Moderator preach the missionary sermon to a large and attentive assembly, followed by Rev. Fred Jones.

After which, a collection for missions was taken up, amounting to \$4.40.

Whereupon, the Moderator adjourned the body, to meet at the time and place above mentioned.

W. J. McCRARY, *Moderator*.

J. M. JAMES, *Clerk*.

ASSOCIATIONAL DIRECTORY.

W. J. McCrary	Moderator.
J. M. James	Clerk and Treasurer.
W. R. Martin	Corresponding Secretary.

Who also constitute the Executive Board.

LIST OF CHURCHES REPRESENTED AND THEIR DELEGATES.

Good Hope Church—W. P. Hulsey, T. J. Boyd, G. T. Hughes and W. D. Goggans; I. M. Lawler, alternate.

Arkadelphia Church—G. S. Sloan, E. M. Robinson, T. M. Hagood; J. M. James and J. B. Robinson, alternate.

Spring Dale Church—I. R. Draper; C. C. Goodwin and G. A. Draper, alternate.

Union Church, Blount County—C. F. Hearn, Alford Burns; E. Young and Noah Parsons, alternate.

Calcedonia Church—S. P. Clemens; D. J. Reid and J. I. Percell, alternate.

Harmony Church—W. R. Fullmore, J. M. C. Wharton, J. F. McNeal and Dyer Goodwin.

Antioch Church—A. Wood and S. L. Waldrop.

Cane Creek Church—J. L. Jolley, J. W. Bairrow, J. F. Creel and Wm. Rouse.

Union Church, Jefferson County—W. R. Speakman, J. T. Ware, J. A. Owens; B. F. Cherry and E. C. Rowe, alternate.

Mount Joy Church—W. E. Dollar, S. J. Tubbs, J. M. Abbott; T. D. Holcomb and W. E. Forrester, alternate.

Pleasant Valley Church—J. N. Dean, W. A. McCalpin, R. M. Byars, and E. Dean, alternate

Sulphur Springs Church—J. C. Thomas, W. R. Martin, William Canon, W. B. Compton, M. L. Rice; Nick Mayfield, alternate.

Mount Hope Church—J. M. Wharton, S. H. Grisham and H. H. Buzbee.

New Bethel Church—J. W. Trotter, W. A. Mayfield, R. C. Great-house, Robert Smith and Albert Trotter.

Chalybeate Springs Church—T. A. Elliott, James Moncrief and W. T. Massa.

Liberty Church—T. J. Barnwell, B. F. Hughes; P. T. Burns and J. V. Creel, alternate.

Oak Grove Church—Wiley Laningham, J. C. Colwell; J. C. Walker and J. W. Panell, alternate.

Mount Zion Church—W. J. McCrary, J. J. Rile and A. L. Hendricks.

Mount Olive Church—W. C. Wingo, J. B. McCormack, W. S. Clements and B. H. Belcher.

Blossburg Church—C. W. Ogwin and R. S. Thompson.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call the Delegates to Order and Hear the Introductory.
2. Call for Letters from the Churches.
3. Appoint Reading Clerks and have Letters Read.
4. Elect Moderator, Clerk, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer.
5. Call for Correspondents from other Associations.
6. Return Correspondents.
7. Appoint a Committee on Devotion.
8. Appoint a Committee on Sabbath Schools.
9. Appoint a Committee on Documents.
10. Appoint a Committee on State of Religion.
11. Appoint a Committee on Temperance.
12. Appoint a Committee on Superannuated Ministers.
13. Call for Report of Executive Board.
14. Call for Reports of Standing Committees.
15. Appoint Time and Place for Next Meeting.
16. Appoint Ministers to Preach Annual Sermons.
17. Offer Thanks and other Miscellany.

District meetings not reported.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1891 AND 1892.

1891.	
Sept. 25.	Balance due Association.....\$65 51
" "	Received from public collections..... 20 70
Total due.....\$86 21	
Oct. 20.	Paid out, Clerk's fee.....\$10 00
" "	" " Printing..... 20 00
" "	" " Postage, paper, etc..... 2 10
1892.	
Aug. 17.	Paid to G. S. Sloan for mission work..... 30 00— 62 10
Balance due the Association to date.....\$24 11	
Aug. 18.	Received Minute funds..... 25 80
" "	" " From Blossburg, H. M..... 1 75
" "	" " Blossburg, F. M..... 3 00
" "	" " Chalybeate Church, D. M..... 1 50
" "	" " R. R. Purvis (Mt. Pisgah), minutes..... 50
" "	" " S. A. Russell (Mineral Springs Ch.) min. 10
" "	" " J. C. Walker (Oak Grove Ch.) minutes. 20
" 21.	" " Public collections..... 11 45
\$68 41	
Aug. 21.	Paid Clerk's fee.....\$10 00
" "	" " Eld. C. A. Burns..... 12 05— 22 05
Balance on hand.....\$46 36	

4.40
30
46 36
80.76

STATISTICS OF SULPHUR SPRINGS ASSOCIATION—1892.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S P. O.	No. Ordained Min- isters.	No. Licensed Min- isters.	Membership Last Report	INCREASE BY			DECREASE BY			Present Mem-ber- ship.
								Baptism.	Letters.	Restoration	Letter.	Exclusion.	Death.	
Arkadelphia.....	Blount.....	.....	T. M. Haygood.....	Arkadelphia.....	1	..	79	..	5	1	12	1	1	69
Antioch.....	Jefferson	S. L. Waldrop.....	A. Wood	Linn's Crossing.	..	1	20	..	1	..	3	..	..	17
Blossburg.....	Jefferson	W. J. McCrary.....	Isaac Nicholson.....	Blossburg.....	..	..	..	2	5	..	..	..	..	22
Calcedonia.....	Jefferson.	D. L. James.....	J. G. Reid	Morris	1	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	3	24
Cane Creek.....	Jefferson.	J. W. Trotter.....	J. L. Jolly.....	Warrior .....	..	..	90	..	..	1	..	2	1	88
Good Hope.....	Jefferson.	J. W. Trotter.....	W. P. Hulsey.....	Robbins X Roads	..	..	82	..	..	2	1	3	1	80
Harmony	Blount...	G. S. Sloan.....	J. D. Griffith	Sloan .....	..	..	80	..	..	..	3	..	..	74
Chalybeate Springs	Jefferson.	W. C. McLaughlin	W. H. Cuhn.....	Coalburg.....	..	..	52	..	1	..	..	3	..	50
Mount Zion.....	Jefferson.	Fred. Jones.....	J. J. Rile.....	Warrior	1	..	38	..	5	..	..	1	1	41
Mount Olive.....	Jefferson.	S. L. Waldrop	J. B. McCormack.....	Brookside .....	..	..	29	..	..	1	..	..	..	29
Mount Joy.....	Blount...	H. Harberson.....	J. M. Abbott	Bremen .....	..	..	52	2	7	..	3	..	1	57
New Bethel.....	Jefferson.	J. W. Trotter.....	W. A. Mayfield.....	Warrior	1	..	84	1	..	..	6	4	2	73
Oak Grove.....	Blount ..	W. W. Salyers.....	J. C. Walker.....	Bangor.....	..	1	42	3	..	1	..	6	1	39
Pleasant Valley.....	Blount.....	J. C. Thomas.....	E. Dean	Willow .....	..	..	27	..	2	..	2	..	..	27
Sulphur Springs.....	Blount.....	J. C. Thomas.....	W. R. Martin.....	Blount Springs.....	1	..	128	..	2	..	10	..	2	118
Spring Dale.....	Jefferson	W. T. Brannon.....	I. R. Draper	Birmingham	1	..	42	1	..	..	9	..	..	34
Union	Jefferson	J. W. Trotter.....	W. R. Speakman.....	Partridge .....	..	1	66	..	..	..	11	3	..	62
Union	Blount...	T. D. Holcomb.....	C. F. Hearn.....	Hanceville.....	..	..	60	..	..	..	..	..	..	60
Mount Hope.....	Blount...	G. S. Sloan	J. M. Whorton.....	Gravelton.....	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	16
Liberty	Jefferson	T. J. Barnwell.....	B. F. Hughes.....	Morris	1	19	13	..	1	51
					8	3	971	29	42	7	56	23	17	1,031

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FINANCIAL EXHIBIT.

CHURCHES.	Home Missions.	State Missions or Foreign.	Minutes.	Total.	Pastor's Salary.	Value of Build- ings and Fur- niture.
Arkadelphia.....			\$2 00	\$2 00	\$50 00	\$500 00
Antioch.....			1 00	1 00		
Blossburg.....	\$1 75	\$3 00	75	5 50		
Calcedonia.....			1 00	1 00		
Cane Creek.....			1 55	1 55		
Good Hope.....			1 75	1 75		
Harmony.....			1 45	1 45	40 00	500 00
Chalybeate Springs.....			1 25	1 25		
Mount Zion.....			1 50	1 50		
Mount Olive.....			1 00	1 00		
Mount Joy.....			1 00	1 00		
New Bethel.....			3 00	3 00		
Oak Grove.....			20	20		
Pleasant Valley.....			1 00	1 00		200 00
Sulphur Springs.....			1 35	1 35		400 00
Springdale.....			60	60	9 25	
Union, Jefferson Co.....			1 50	1 50		
Union, Blount Co.....			1 50	1 50		
Mount Hope.....			1 00	1 00		
Liberty.....			1 40	1 40		
	\$1 75	\$3 00	\$25 80	\$30 55	\$99 25	\$1,600 00

